

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAPE T 01229 201440Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 SS-15 SP-02 INR-10
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FM AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 7501
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK NIACT IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY GABORONE IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAPE TOWN 1229

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PDEV, SF, WA
SUBJECT: NAMIBIA: APPROACH TO BOTHA ON TROOP LOCATION

REF: USUN 2559

1. THE CAPE TOWN FIVE MET TODAY (JUNE 20) TO REVIEW THE STATUS OF INSTRUCTIONS ON THE PENDING APPROACH TO BOTHA REGARDING THE TROOP LOCATION ISSUE.

2. THE FIVE WERE IN AGREEMENT WITH THE CONTACT GROUP'S JUNE 19 TALKING POINTS AND MESSAGE TO BOTHA FROM THE FIVE FOREIGN MINISTERS (USUN 2559) WITH ONE EXCEPTION. THEY ARE STRONGLY OF THE OPINION THAT ON WALVIS BAY, IT
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PAGE 02 CAPE T 01229 201440Z

WOULD BE MUCH PREFERABLE TO RETURN TO THE SIMPLE ONE-SENTENCE PARAGRAPH OF THE CONTACT GROUP'S JUNE 18 DRAFT (USUN 2537), WHICH PROVIDED A NATURAL LEAD-IN TO THE CENTRAL ISSUE OF TROOP LOCATION. THE ADDITIONAL WALVIS BAY LANGUAGE IN THE JUNE19 DRAFT WOULD VERY LIKELY DISTRACT BOTHA FROM THAT CENTRAL ISSUE. THE CAPE TOWN FIVE AGREE THAT THE SAG SHOULD BE INFORMED BEFOREHAND, MORE SPECIFICALLY THAN

HAS BEEN THE CASE SO FAR (PARA 5, CAPE TOWN 1115), OF OUR INTENTIONS WITH RESPECT TO A SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION ON THE MATTER, BUT CONSIDER THAT THE APPROACH ON TROOP LOCATION IS NOT THE PLACE FOR IT. THEY RECOMMEND THAT THE ADDITIONAL WALVIS BAY LANGUAGE PROPOSED JUNE 19 BY THE CONTACT GROUP BE HELD AS CONTINGENCY GUIDANCE IN THE EVENT BOTHA RAISES THE QUESTION OF OUR INTENTIONS IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL. THE FIVE ALSO AGREED THAT, IF WE ARE NEVERTHELESS TO PROCEED WITH THE JUNE 19 FORMULATION ON WALVIS BAY, THE ADDITIONAL SENTENCE PROPOSED BY THE DEPARTMENT (STATE 156035) IS ESSENTIAL.

3. AT PRESENT, THE FRENCH AND BRITISH HAVE NOT RECEIVED INSTRUCTIONS. WE ARE THEREFORE NOT YET IN A POSITION TO REQUEST A MEETING WITH BOTHA. WE ARE, HOWEVER, MAKING DISCREET INQUIRIES AS TO HIS WHEREABOUTS OVER THE NEXT 48 HOURS.

4. THE CAPE TOWN FIVE CONCUR WITH THE SUGGESTION THAT THE MEETING WITH BOTHA BE AS INFORMAL AS POSSIBLE AND WITHOUT PUBLICITY. WE ANTICIPATE THAT THE APPROACH WILL BE MADE BY BRITISH AMBASSADOR SCOTT (WHO ARRIVES IN PRETORIA BY ROAD TODAY) AND ONE OTHER. THE OTHER FOUR ARE PRESENTLY SCHEDULED TO ARRIVE IN PRETORIA THURSDAY AFTERNOON, JUNE 22, BY TRAIN, BUT ONE OF THEM WILL FLY TO PRETORIA BEFORE JUNE 22 IF NECESSARY.
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PAGE 03 CAPE T 01229 201440Z

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NOTE BY OC/T: DISTRIBUTION CO-ORDINATED WITH S/S-O MR. SCOTT.

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
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